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CLASSIFICATION SECRETCOUNTRY East GermanyREPORT TOPIC Military Information from WittenbergEVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 20 January 1954REFERENCES PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) REMARKS This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. On 3 January 1954, the Beseler Kaserne in Wittenberg, the occupation of which increased by the arrival of recruits in December, was estimated to be occupied by more than 1,000 troops. Sentries observed wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia.
2. The Flak Kaserne was estimated to be occupied as previously by more than 1,000 troops. Sentries seen wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia. The installation also quartered troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with motor transport insignia. 40 BA-64 armored scout cars, 10 M-3 armored scout cars and 2 armored half-track vehicles. Ten to 15 trucks mounting tripods were seen in the installation. Groups of 40 to 80 soldiers with machine guns, submachine guns and rifles daily marched to the training area. An undetermined number of troops received individual training in the barracks area. 25X1
3. The Tauentzien Kaserne was occupied by a headquarters unit which presumably was responsible for the whole post. Commanding officers of all columns arriving at the post first went to the Tauentzien Kaserne, reporting there with their papers and leaving a short time later. On 3 January, the installation was estimated to be occupied by more than 500 troops. Sentries observed wore red-bordered black epaulets with motor transport insignia. Seven T-34/85 tanks and several M-3 armored personnel carriers were seen in the installation. A wooden shed for motorcycles was being constructed.
4. The occupation of the Arado installation presumably had decreased to an estimated 200 troops on 3 January. Sentries seen wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia. Four canvas-covered tanks were observed. other tanks were quartered in a newly erected wooden shed. Forty two-axle tank trailers were in the yard. railroad tank cars were shunted to the installation, where they were drained into 20-liter fuel drums. 25X1
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5. In late December, the barracks installation in Apollensdorf was occupied by a new unit of an estimated 150 troops. Sentries seen wore red-bordered black and black epaulets. The unit was equipped with trucks with one-axle trailers. Six trailers were counted. 25X1

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6. At 6:40 a.m. on 16 December, 8 rocket launchers and 1 boxcar occupied by troops arrived in Wittenberg with a freight train from the direction of Halle. The shipment had not yet been unloaded at 4:30 p.m. [redacted] 25X1

7. Between 6 and 13 December, the Beseler Kaserne was occupied as previously by 700 to 750 troops. All quartering buildings were lighted after nightfall. Sentries observed wore red-bordered black epaulets, including a few with tank insignia. At about 2 p.m. on 6 December, about 130 troops practiced loading of, and aiming with, 4 x 20-mm AA guns in the barracks yard. At about 1:30 p.m. on 12 December, 4 to 5 companies totaling about 650 troops, had fallen in in a quadrangle in the yard. Five senior officers reviewed the troops. At about 2:20 p.m., after the inspection, the troops returned to their quarters. At 4 p.m. on 13 December, 6 T-34/85 tanks [redacted] were washed and cleaned in the barracks yard. 25X1

8. Between 6 and 13 December, the Flak Kaserne was occupied as previously by about 1,300 troops. All quartering buildings were lighted at dusk. Sentries seen wore red-bordered black epaulets, including some with tank insignia. At 12:10 p.m. on 8 December, 2 BA-64 armored scout cars were seen in the yard. 25X1

1. [redacted] Comment. [redacted] . Individual units of the 6th Gds Tank Div, which, [redacted] are stationed there as previously, are commented on as follows: Taunetzien Kaserne (3581) is occupied by the headquarters and the 3d Gds Mtrcl Bn; it cannot be determined to which units the 40 armored scout cars observed in the Flak Kaserne (3583) belonged; the Arado installation (3582) is occupied by the unidentified tank training battalion and a fuel depot.

2. [redacted] 25X1

3. [redacted] Comment. [redacted] rocket launchers of the 21st Gds Mecz Div, which are fairly definitely believed to have proceeded to Jueterbog, coming from Halle.

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TOPIC: Artillery Information from Postock

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1. Between 23 December 1953 and 1 January 1954, the Putlitz Kaserne in Postock was occupied as previously by an estimated 1,000 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery, signal and motor transport insignia. At 6 p.m. on 23 December, about 30 trucks and half-track vehicles towing 25 x 100-mm AT guns and occupied by 300 troops in winter uniforms entered the installation. At 10:45 a.m. on 30 December, a colonel wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia and a lieutenant colonel wearing red-bordered black epaulets left the installation.

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2. Between 23 December 1953 and 1 January 1954, the barracks installation on Ulmenstrasse was occupied as previously by an estimated 500 men wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery, signal and motor transport insignia; about 150 men wearing black-bordered red epaulets; and 150 naval personnel. At 1 p.m. on 23 December, 2 officers and 8 EM wearing black-bordered red epaulets and armed with rifles and submachine guns entered the installation. At 11 a.m. on 28 December, 10 men wearing red-bordered black epaulets with signal insignia and carrying 2 field wire reels and, at 10:30 a.m. on 30 December, 2 officers and 9 EM wearing red-bordered black epaulets, left the installation, the latter armed with submachine guns and equipped with field wire reels.

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Comment. The information does not indicate any change in the occupation of the installation by units of the 24th AT Arty Brig over observations on 21 December.

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